

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern----- Application No
PCT/03/28534

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A61B18/14

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 589 555 A (EVEREST MEDICAL CORP) 30 March 1994 (1994-03-30) column 10, line 10 - line 47; figure 1	1-10
A	EP 1 177 771 A (OLYMPUS OPTICAL CO) 6 February 2002 (2002-02-06) paragraphs '0174!-'0176!; figures 1,30	1,9
A	US 6 106 542 A (GRINSHTEIN VICTOR AVIGDOR ET AL) 22 August 2000 (2000-08-22) column 6, line 43 - line 53; figure 1	1,9
A	US 2002/091385 A1 (FURMANOV ALEXANDR Y ET AL) 11 July 2002 (2002-07-11) paragraphs '0168!,'0169!; figure 16	1,5,6,9
	-/-	

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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- *E* earlier document but published on or after the International filing date
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- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the International search

11 December 2003

Date of mailing of the International search report

19/12/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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C(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 6 458 130 B1 (LUKIANOW WADE ET AL) 1 October 2002 (2002-10-01) abstract; figure 1	1,9

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC(8) - A61B 18/14 (2008.01) USPC - 606/51 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC(8) - A61B 18/14 (2008.01) USPC - 606/51		
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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) Patbase, Google Scholar		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/0188294 A1 (COUTURE et al) 12 December 2002 (12.12.2002) entire document	1-4, 9-13
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Y	US 2001/0018591 A1 (BROCK et al) 30 August 2001 (30.08.2001) entire document	5-8, 14-17
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/>		
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s), or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		
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Date of the actual completion of the international search 25 January 2008	Date of mailing of the international search report 01 APR 2008	
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201	Authorized officer: Blaine R. Copenheaver PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300 PCT OSP: 571-272-7774	

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International Bureau(43) International Publication Date
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60/850,214 6 October 2006 (06.10.2006) US(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): TYCO HEALTHCARE GROUP LP [US/US]; 60 Middletown Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473 (US).(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(72) Inventors; and

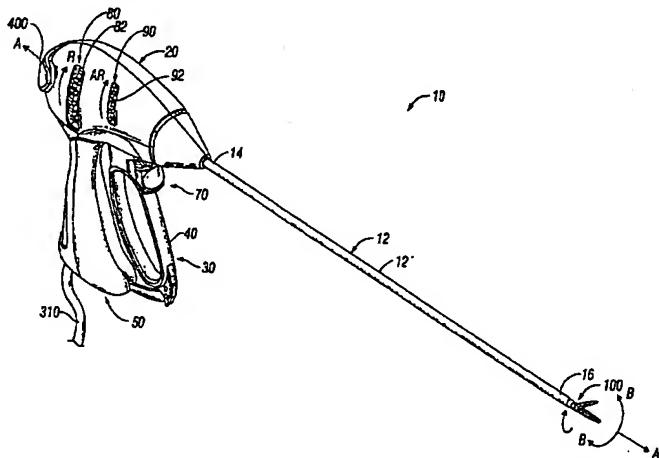
Published:(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): TAYLOR, Eric, J. [US/US]; 5 Blue Meadow Road, Middletown, CT 06457 (US). HATHAWAY, Peter [US/US]; 210 Clubhouse Road, Lebanon, CT 06249 (US).

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(74) Agents: WEBBER, Donald, L. et al.; Covidien, 60 Middletown Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473 (US).

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(54) Title: ENDOSCOPIC VESSEL SEALER AND DIVIDER HAVING A FLEXIBLE ARTICULATING SHAFT



(57) Abstract: An electrosurgical instrument for treating tissue includes a housing having a flexible shaft extending therefrom having an axis A-A defined therethrough. The flexible shaft has first and second jaw members attached at a distal end thereof and each jaw member includes an electrically conductive tissue contacting surface adapted to connect to a source of electrosurgical energy. A drive assembly is disposed in the housing and has a first actuator operably coupled to a drive rod for reciprocation thereof and a second actuator operably coupled to the drive rod for rotation thereof. A knife is operably coupled to a distal end of the drive rod. Actuation of the first actuator moves the jaw members relative to one another for engaging tissue and actuation of the second actuator rotates the drive rod about the axis A-A to translate the knife to cut tissue disposed between the jaw members.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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IPC(8) - A61B 18/14 (2008.01)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

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Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/0188294 A1 (COUTURE et al) 12 December 2002 (12.12.2002) entire document	1, 8, 9
Y	US 2001/0018591 A1 (BROCK et al) 30 August 2001 (30.08.2001) entire document	2-7, 10-12
Y	US 4,829,313 A (TAGGART) 09 May 1989 (09.05.1989) entire document	2-4, 6, 7, 10-12.
		5

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

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(74) Agents: WADADLI, Aryn et al.; Covidien, 60 Middletown Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473 (US).

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(25) Filing Language: English

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(30) Priority Data:
60/850,214 6 October 2006 (06.10.2006) US

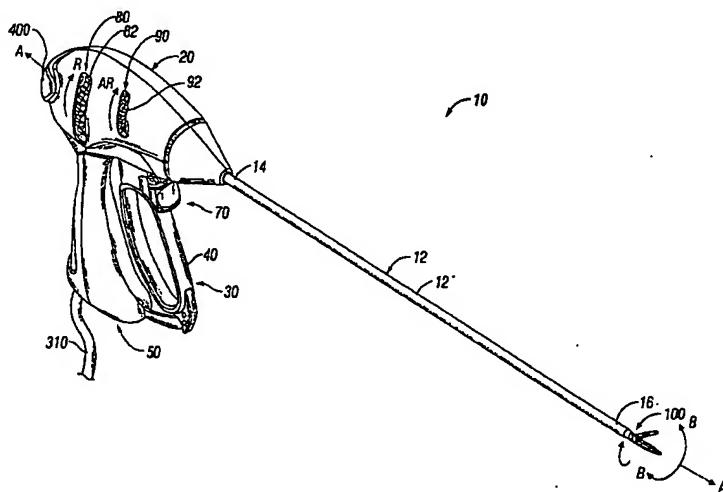
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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): TYCO HEALTHCARE GROUP LP [US/US]; 60 Middletown Avenue, North Haven, CT 06473 (US).

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17 July 2008

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(57) Abstract: An electrosurgical instrument for treating tissue includes a housing having a shaft extending therefrom having an axis A-A defined therethrough. The shaft is at least partially flexible and includes first and second jaw members attached at a distal end thereof. Each jaw member includes an electrically conductive tissue contacting surface adapted to connect to a source of electrosurgical energy such that the electrically conductive tissue contacting surfaces are capable of conducting electrosurgical energy through tissue held therebetween. A drive assembly is disposed in the housing and has a first actuator operably coupled to a drive rod for reciprocation thereof to move the jaw members from a first position in spaced relation to one another to a second position closer to one another for engaging tissue. A second actuator is disposed on the housing and is actuatable to articulate the shaft.

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